# Application for United States Letters Patent

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that

Samuel J. Danishefsky and Bishan Zhou

have invented certain new and useful improvements in

COMPOUNDS OF THE SAFRAMYCIN-ECTEINASCIDIN SERIES, USES, AND SYNTHESIS THEREOF

of which the following is a full, clear and exact description.

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# COMPOUNDS OF THE SAFRAMYCIN-ECTEINASCIDIN SERIES, USES, AND SYNTHESIS THEREOF

5 This application is a divisional of U.S. Serial No. 09/765,515, filed January 19, 2001, now allowed, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/177,071, filed January 19, 2000, the contents of all of which are hereby incorporated by reference.

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This invention has been made with government support under National Institutes of Health Grant Nos. CA-28824 and HL-25848. Accordingly, the U.S. Government may have certain rights in the invention.

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Throughout this application, various publications may be referenced by Arabic numerals in brackets. Full citations for these publications may be found at the end of the specification immediately preceding the claims. The disclosures of these 20 publications in their entireties are hereby incorporated by reference into this application in order to more fully describe the state of the art as known to those skilled therein as of the date of the invention described and claimed herein.

#### 25 Field of Invention

The disclosed invention relates to novel compounds of the saframycin-ecteinascidin series having cytotoxic properties and to schemes for the total synthesis of such compounds.

#### 30 Background of the Invention

The screening of natural product sources for new drug candidates with useful therapeutic margins has led to a variety of novel structures. One of the most fascinating and promising of these is ecteinascidin 743 (ET 743) derived from the marine tunicate 35 Ecteinascidia turbinata.(1) The novel structure of Et 743, its difficult availability, and its exceedingly potent cytotoxicity render it an attractive target for total synthesis. This goal was undertaken and accomplished in a most interesting fashion

by E. J. Corey and coworkers.(2) Follow-up studies by Corey, Schreiber (3) and co-workers resulted in the demonstration that a significantly simplified version of ET 743 (ie: phthalascidin) retains the cytotoxicity of the natural product. Previously, 5 well before the ecteinascidins were known, some of the named inventors had accomplished what was then the only total synthesis of quinocarcinol.(4) The central Mannich-like envelopment strategy, learned from work in the quinocarcin series, was adapted to the ET problem.

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While ET 743 was previously known, the total synthesis of ET 743 was first accomplished by Corey in 1996 and, prior to this invention, was the only total synthesis of an ecteinascidin.

15 It is known that saframycin B, saframycin A (13,14), saframycin 729 (Et 729) (16), Εt ecteinascidin (15).Phthalascidin (3) all posses cytotoxic antitumor and antibiotic characteristics. It is also known that saframycin S, saframycin B, saframycin A, Et 729, Et 743 (17), and phthalascidin (3) all 20 possess a two tetrahydroisoquinoline aromatic carbon nitrogen Saframycins and ecteinascidins have been shown to framework. interact with DNA. Interactions are believed to occur between DNA and the tetrahydroisoquinoline aromatic carbon nitrogen framework. (2,18)

## Summary of the Invention

The subject invention provides compounds of the saframycinecteinascidin series with cytotoxic properties having the following general formula, their uses and synthesis:

OR 1 
$$R_{4}$$
  $R_{10}$   $R_{10}$ 

wherein R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> is H, a C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>4</sub> alkyl group, or an acyl group;
20 wherein R<sub>2</sub> is an ether, ester, amide, a phthalimide group, a
substituted phthalimide group or is covalently bound to R<sub>6</sub>;
wherein R<sub>3</sub> is =0, OH, an ether group, an acyl group such as
OC(0)Me, OC(0)Bn and OC(0)Et, or a sulfide group; wherein R<sub>5</sub> is
H, halogen, OH, an ether group, an acyl group, or an amide
25 group; wherein R<sub>6</sub> is =0, OH, OCH<sub>3</sub>, CN, or an acyloxy group or is
covalently bound to R<sub>2</sub>; wherein R<sub>7</sub>, is =0, OH, halogen, an ether
group, or an acyl group; wherein R<sub>8</sub> and R<sub>9</sub> are independently H,
CH<sub>3</sub>, OCH<sub>3</sub>, OC<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, CF<sub>3</sub>, halogen such as Br and F, or R<sub>8</sub> and R<sub>9</sub> are
joined together as a methylenedioxy group, or other five or six
30 membered ring; wherein R<sub>10</sub> and R<sub>11</sub> are independently CH<sub>3</sub>, OCH<sub>3</sub>,
OC<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, SCH<sub>3</sub>, or SC<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>; wherein R<sub>12</sub> is H, a C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>4</sub> alkyl group, or
an acyl group; and wherein the chiral center marked \* has the
R or the S configuration.

The subject invention also provides for a group of saframycinecteinascidin series compounds with cytotoxic properties having the following general formula, their uses and synthesis:

$$R_{10}$$
 $R_{10}$ 
 $R_{11}$ 
 $R$ 

wherein R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> is H, a C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>4</sub> alkyl group, or an acyl group; wherein R<sub>2</sub> is an ether, ester, amide, an aromatic group or is covalently bound to R<sub>6</sub>; wherein R<sub>3</sub> is =0, OH, an ether group, an acyl group such as OC(O)Me, OC(O)Bn and OC(O)Et, a sulfide group or H; wherein R<sub>5</sub> is H, halogen, OH, an ether group, an acyl group, or an amide group; wherein R<sub>6</sub> is =0, OH, OCH<sub>3</sub>, CN, or an acyloxy group or is covalently bound to R<sub>2</sub>; wherein R<sub>7</sub>, is =0, OH, halogen, an ether group, or an acyl group; wherein R<sub>8</sub> and R<sub>9</sub> are independently H, CH<sub>3</sub>, OCH<sub>3</sub>, OC<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, CF<sub>3</sub>, halogen such as Br and F, or R<sub>8</sub> and R<sub>9</sub> are joined together as a methylenedioxy group, or other five or six membered ring; wherein R<sub>10</sub> and R<sub>11</sub> are independently CH<sub>3</sub>, OCH<sub>3</sub>, OC<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, SCH<sub>3</sub>, or SC<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>; wherein R<sub>12</sub> is H, a C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>4</sub> alkyl group, or an acyl group; and wherein the chiral center marked \* has the R or the S configuration.

## Description of the Figures

Figure 1 shows the structures of Saframycin B and Ecteinascidin 743.

Figure 2 is a Table showing the cytotoxicity, antimetabolism and antimicrobial activity of ET 743.

Figure 3 shows the mechanism for the catalytic activation of ET 10 743 and alkylation of 6GN2.

Figures 4A, 4B and 4C show the retrosynthesis analysis of ET 743 and Saframycin B.

- 15 Figures 5A and 5B show the enantioselective synthesis of amino acid for the synthesis strategy A of Saframycin B.
- Figure 6 shows the enantioselective synthesis of tertahydroisoquinoline, which is used as a subunit in the 20 foregoing synthesis.

Figures 7A and 7B show the coupling strategy for the synthesis strategy A of Saframycin B.

25 Figures 8A and 8B show the modified synthesis of amino acid for synthesis strategy B of Saframycin B.

Figures 9A and 9B show the synthesis of the pentasubstituted aromatic system and the tertahydroisoquinoline of ET 743, i.e. 30 the left part of ET 743.

Figure 10A shows the coupling steps for the synthesis strategy B for Saframycin B.

Figur 10B shows the cyclization for the synthesis strategy B of Saframycin B.

Figure 11 shows the final steps for the total synthesis of 5 Saframycin B.

Figure 12 shows the enantioselective synthesis of amino acid for the synthesis of ET 743.

Figure 13 shows the coupling and the cyclization steps in 10 synthesis for ET 743.

Figure 14 shows the ET 743 series cyclization analogs.

Figure 15 shows the plan for the total synthesis of ET 743.

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## Detailed Description of the Invention

An embodiment of the subject invention provides compounds having the formula:

wherein  $R_1$  and  $R_4$  is H, a  $C_1$  to  $C_4$  alkyl group, or an acyl group; wherein  $R_2$  is an ether, ester, amide, a phthalimide group, a substituted phathalimide group or is covalently bound to  $R_6$ ; wherein  $R_3$  is =0, OH, an ether group, an acyl group, or a sulfide group;

wherein  $R_{\text{5}}$  is H, halogen, OH, an ether group, an acyl group, or an amide group;

25 wherein  $R_6$  is =0, OH, OCH $_3$ , CN, an acyloxy group or is covalently bound to  $R_2$ ; ;

wherein  $R_7$ , is =0, OH, halogen, an ether group, or an acyl group;

wherein  $R_8$  and  $R_9$  are independently H,  $CH_3$ ,  $OCH_3$ ,  $OC_2H_5$ , Br, F, 30  $CF_3$ , or  $R_8$  and  $R_9$  are joined together as a methylenedioxy group, or other five or six membered ring;

wherein  $R_{10}$  and  $R_{11}$  are independently  $CH_3$ ,  $OCH_3$ ,  $OC_2H_5$ ,  $SCH_3$ , or  $SC_2H_5$ ;

wherein  $R_{12}$  is H, a  $C_1$  to  $C_4$  alkyl group, or an acyl group; and

wherein the chiral center marked  $\ast$  has the R or the S configuration.

In another embodiment, the compound has the formula:

where  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$ ,  $R_5$ ,  $R_6$ ,  $R_7$ ,  $R_8$ , and  $R_9$  are as defined above.

In yet another embodiment, the compound has the formula:

35 where  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$ ,  $R_5$ ,  $R_6$ , and  $R_7$  are as defined above.

In yet another embodiment, the compound has the formula:

where  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$ ,  $R_5$ ,  $R_6$ , and  $R_7$  are as defined above.

20 In preferred embodiments of the immediately preceding formula,  $R_1$  is  $CH_3$ ,  $R_3$  is =0,  $R_4$  is  $CH_3$ ,  $R_5$  is  $OCH_3$ ,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H.

In another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula,  $R_1$  is H,  $R_3$  is =0,  $R_4$  is  $CH_3$ ,  $R_5$  is  $OCH_3$ ,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H.

In yet another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula,  $R_1$  is H,  $R_3$  is =0,  $R_4$  is benzyl ,  $R_5$  is OCH<sub>3</sub>,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H.

30 In yet another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula,  $R_1$  is H,  $R_3$  is =0,  $R_4$  is H,  $R_5$  is OCH<sub>3</sub>,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H.

In yet another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula,  $R_1$  is H,  $R_3$  is =0,  $R_4$  is H,  $R_5$  is H,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H.

In preferred embodiments of the immediately preceding formula,  $R_1$  is  $CH_3$ ,  $R_3$  is =0,  $R_4$  is  $CH_3$ ,  $R_5$  is  $OCH_3$ ,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H.

In another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula,  $R_1$  is  $S_1$  H,  $R_3$  is =0,  $R_4$  is  $CH_3$ ,  $R_5$  is  $OCH_3$ ,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H.

In yet another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula,  $R_1$  is H,  $R_3$  is =0,  $R_4$  is benzyl ,  $R_5$  is OCH<sub>3</sub>,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H.

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In yet another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula,  $R_1$  is H,  $R_3$  is =0,  $R_4$  is H,  $R_5$  is OCH<sub>3</sub>,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H.

In yet another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula, 15  $R_1$  is H,  $R_3$  is =0,  $R_4$  is H,  $R_5$  is H,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H.

In yet another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula,  $R_1$  is H,  $R_3$  is =0,  $R_4$  is H,  $R_5$  is halogen,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H.

20 In all of the embodiments, and particularly in the preferred embodiments,  $R_2$  is OC(O)H,  $R_2$  is H,  $R_2$  is OH,  $R_2$  is -O-benzyl,  $R_2$  is OCOCH<sub>3</sub>,  $R_2$  is -O-t-butyldimethylsilyl, or  $R_2$  is -O-pivaloyl.

In yet another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula,  $R_1$  is H,  $R_3$  is =0,  $R_4$  is H,  $R_5$  is halogen,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H.

In all of the embodiments, and particularly in the preferred 5 membodiments,  $R_2$  is OC(O)H,  $R_2$  is H,  $R_2$  is OH,  $R_2$  is -O-benzyl ,  $R_2$  is OCOCH<sub>3</sub>,  $R_2$  is -O-t-butyldimethylsilyl, or  $R_2$  is -O-Pivaloyl.

The subject invention also provides compounds having the 10 formula:

$$R_{40}$$
 $R_{11}$ 
 $R_{10}$ 
 $R_{11}$ 
 $R$ 

wherein  $R_1$  and  $R_4$  is H, a  $C_1$  to  $C_4$  alkyl group, or an acyl group;

wherein  $R_2$  is an ether, ester, amide, or a phthalimide 30 group;

wherein  $R_{\text{S}}$  is H, halogen, OH, an ether group, an acyl group, or an amide group;

wherein  $R_6$  is =0, OH, OCH<sub>3</sub>, CN, or an acyloxy group; wherein  $R_7$ , is =0, OH, halogen, an ether group, or an acyl

In a preferred embodiment, the compound has the formula:

$$R_4O$$
 $R_4O$ 
 $R_5$ 
 $R_7$ 
 $R_7$ 
 $R_7$ 
 $R_7$ 
 $R_8$ 

where  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_4$ ,  $R_5$ ,  $R_6$ , and  $R_7$  are as defined above.

25

20 In preferred embodiments of the immediately preceding formula,  $R_1$  is  $CH_3$ ,  $R_4$  is  $CH_3$ ,  $R_5$  is  $OCH_3$ ,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H.

In another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula,  $R_1$  is H,  $R_4$  is  $CH_3$ ,  $R_5$  is  $OCH_3$ ,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H.

In yet another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula,  $R_1$  is H,  $R_4$  is benzyl ,  $R_5$  is OCH<sub>3</sub>,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H.

In yet another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula,  $30~R_1$  is H,  $R_4$  is H,  $R_5$  is OCH<sub>3</sub>,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H.

In yet another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula,  $R_1$  is H,  $R_4$  is H,  $R_5$  is H,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H.

35 In yet another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula,

group;

- 25

wherein  $R_8$  and  $R_9$  are independently H,  $CH_3$ ,  $OCH_3$ ,  $OC_2H_3$ , Br, F,  $CF_3$ , or  $R_8$  and  $R_9$  are joined together as a methylenedioxy group, or other five or six membered ring;

wherein  $R_{10}$  and  $R_{11}$  are independently  $CH_3$ ,  $OCH_3$ ,  $OC_2H_5$ ,  $SCH_3$ , or  $SC_2H_5$ ;

wherein  $R_{12}$  is H, a  $C_1$  to  $C_4$  alkyl group, or an acyl group.

In another embodiment, the compound has the formula:

15 
$$R_4$$
  $R_5$   $R_6$   $R_7$   $R_8$   $R_9$   $R_8$   $R_9$   $R_8$ 

where  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_4$ ,  $R_5$ ,  $R_6$ ,  $R_7$ ,  $R_8$  and  $R_9$  are as defined above.

 $R_1$  is H,  $R_4$  is H,  $R_5$  is halogen,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H.

In all of the embodiments, and particularly in the preferred embodiments,  $R_2$  is OC(O)H,  $R_2$  is H,  $R_2$  is OH,  $R_2$  is -O-benzyl , 5  $R_2$  is OCOCH<sub>3</sub>,  $R_2$  is -O-t-butyldimethylsilyl, or  $R_2$  is -O-Pivaloyl.

In another preferred embodiment, the compound has the formula:

15 
$$R_4O$$
 $R_4O$ 
 $R_5$ 
 $R_5$ 
 $R_6$ 

25 where  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_4$ ,  $R_5$ ,  $R_6$ , and  $R_7$  are as defined above.

In preferred embodiments of the immediately preceding formula,  $R_1$  is  $CH_3$ ,  $R_4$  is  $CH_3$ ,  $R_5$  is  $OCH_3$ ,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H.

30 In another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula,  $R_1$  is H,  $R_4$  is  $CH_3$ ,  $R_5$  is  $OCH_3$ ,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H.

In yet another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula,  $R_1$  is H,  $R_4$  is benzyl ,  $R_5$  is OCH<sub>3</sub>,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H.

In yet another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula,  $R_1$  is H,  $R_4$  is H,  $R_5$  is OCH<sub>3</sub>,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H.

In yet another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula,  $5_1 R_1$  is H,  $R_4$  is H,  $R_5$  is H,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H.

In yet another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula,  $R_1$  is H,  $R_4$  is H,  $R_5$  is halogen,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H.

10 In yet another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula,  $R_1$  is H,  $R_4$  is  $CH_3$ ,  $R_5$  is  $CH_3$ ,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H (Compound 110).

In all of the embodiments, and particularly in the preferred 15 embodiments,  $R_2$  is OC(O)H,  $R_2$  is H,  $R_2$  is OH,  $R_2$  is -O-benzyl ,  $R_2$  is OCOCH<sub>3</sub>,  $R_2$  is -O-t-butyldimethylsilyl, or  $R_2$  is -O-Pivaloyl.

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The subject invention also provides compounds having the following general formula which are used in the synthesis of compounds within the saframycin-ecteinascidin series:

5
$$R_4O$$
 $R_{11}$ 
 $R$ 

15 wherein  $R_4$  is H, a  $C_1$  to  $C_4$  alkyl group, or an acyl group; wherein  $R_5$  is H, halogen, OH, an ether group, an acyl group, a sulfide group or an amide group; wherein  $R_{11}$  is  $CH_3$ ,  $OCH_3$ ,  $OC_2H_5$ ,  $SCH_3$ , or  $SC_2H_5$ ; and wherein  $R_{12}$  is H, a  $C_1$  to  $C_4$  alkyl group, or an acyl group.

20

In another embodiment, the compound has the formula:

where  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  are defined as above.

In a preferred embodiment of the immediately preceding formula,  $R_4$  is  $CH_3$  and  $R_5$  is  $CH_3$  (compound  $\boldsymbol{1})\,.$ 

In another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula,  $R_4$  is  $\frac{5_1}{1000}$  Benzene and  $R_5$  is H (compound 3).

The subject invention also provides compounds having the following general formula which are used in the synthesis of compounds within the saframycin-ecteinascidin series:

$$R_{10}$$
 $R_{10}$ 
 $R$ 

wherein  $R_1$  is H, a  $C_1$  to  $C_4$  alkyl group, or an acyl group; wherein  $R_3$  is =0, OH, an ether group, an acyl group, a sulfide 15 group or an amide group;

wherein  $R_8$  and  $R_9$  are independently H,  $CH_3$ ,  $OCH_3$ ,  $OC_2H_5$ ,  $SCH_3$ ,  $SC_2H_5$ , or  $R_8$  and  $R_9$  are joined together to form a five or six membered ring;

wherein  $R_{10}$  is  $CH_3$ ,  $OCH_3$ ,  $OC_2H_5$ ,  $SCH_3$ , or  $SC_2H_5$ .

In another embodiment, of the immediately preceding formula the compound having the formula:

$$R_{10}$$
 $R_{10}$ 
 $R$ 

where  $R_1$ ,  $R_3$  and  $R_{10}$  are defined as above.

The subject invention also provides compounds having the following general formula which are used in the synthesis of compounds within the saframycin-ecteinascidin series:

$$R_{10}$$
 $R_{10}$ 
 $R$ 

wherein  $R_1$  is H, a  $C_1$  to  $C_4$  alkyl group, or an acyl group; wherein  $R_3$  is =0, OH, an ether group, an acyl group, a sulfide 15 group, an amide group or H; wherein  $R_8$  and  $R_9$  are independently H,  $CH_3$ ,  $OCH_3$ ,  $OC_2H_5$ ,  $SCH_3$ ,

wherein  $R_8$  and  $R_9$  are independently  $R_7$ ,  $CR_{37}$ ,  $CC_{2}R_{57}$ ,  $CC_{2}R_{57}$ , or  $R_8$  and  $R_9$  are joined together to form a five or six membered ring;

wherein  $R_{10}$  is  $CH_3$ ,  $OCH_3$ ,  $OC_2H_5$ ,  $SCH_3$ , or  $SC_2H_5$ .

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In another embodiment, of the immediately preceding formula the compound having the formula:

$$R_{10}$$
 $R_{10}$ 
 $R$ 

where  $R_1$ ,  $R_3$  and  $R_{10}$  are defined as above.

The subject invention also provides a method of producing the compounds within the saframycin-ecteinascidin series such as compound 1, which method comprises reacting a compound having the formula

$$\begin{array}{c}
5\\
R_4O
\end{array}$$
 $\begin{array}{c}
R_{11}\\
R_5
\end{array}$ 
 $\begin{array}{c}
R_{11}\\
R_5
\end{array}$ 

15

with a compound having the formula

wherein  $R_1$  and  $R_4$  is H, a  $C_1$  to  $C_4$  alkyl group, or an acyl group; wherein  $R_3$  is =0, OH, an ether group, an acyl group, a sulfide group or an amide group; 30 wherein  $R_5$  is H, halogen, OH, an ether group, an acyl group, or

an amide group; wherein  $R_8$  and  $R_9$  are independently H,  $CH_3$ ,  $OCH_3$ ,  $OC_2H_5$ , Br, F,  $CF_3$ , or  $R_8$  and  $R_9$  are joined together as a methylenedioxy group, or other five or six membered ring;

In yet another preferred embodiment, the compound has the formula:

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In yet another preferred embodiment, the compound has the 15 formula:

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wherein  $R_{10}$  and  $R_{11}$  are independently  $CH_3$ ,  $OCH_3$ ,  $OC_2H_5$ ,  $SCH_3$ , or  $SC_2H_5$ ; and

wherein  $R_{12}$  is H, a  $C_1$  to  $C_4$  alkyl group, or an acyl group.

5 In an embodiment of the preceding method, the reaction is performed in the presence of N,N-bis(2-oxo-3-oxazolidinyl)phosphinic chloride.

In another embodiment of the method, the reaction is performed 10 in the presence of Dess-Martin periodinane . In this embodiment, the reaction is further performed in the presence of  $CH_2Cl_2$ .

This invention also provides a method of producing the compound 2 above, which comprises reacting compound 1 above with camphor 15 sulfonic acid (CSA) in the presence of toluene.

This invention also provides a method of producing the compound 1 above, which comprises reacting compound 2 above with  $H_2$ , 10%Pd/C, Ethanol-ascetic acid in the presence hydrochloric acid.

In another embodiment the subject invention provides for a compound having the formula:

$$S_1$$
 $R_4O$ 
 $R_{10}$ 
 $R_{11}$ 
 $R_{11}$ 

wherein  $R_1$  and  $R_4$  is H, a  $C_1$  to  $C_4$  alkyl group, or an acyl group; 20 wherein  $R_2$  is an ether, ester, amide, aromatic group or is covalently bound to  $R_6$ ;

wherein  $R_3$  is =0, OH, H, an ether group, an acyl group, or a sulfide group;

wherein  $R_5$  is H, halogen, OH,  $-OC_{(2-6)}$  alkyl group, an ether 25 group, an acyl group, or an amide group;

wherein  $R_6$  is =0, OH, OCH<sub>3</sub>, CN, or an acyloxy group or is covalently bound to  $R_2$ ;

wherein  $R_7$ , is H, =0, OH, OCH<sub>3</sub>, halogen, an ether group, or an acyl group;

30 wherein  $R_8$  and  $R_9$  are independently H,  $CH_3$ ,  $OCH_3$ ,  $OC_2H_5$ , Br, F,  $CF_3$ , or  $R_8$  and  $R_9$  are joined together as a methylenedioxy group, or other five or six membered ring; wherein  $R_{10}$  and  $R_{11}$  are independently  $CH_3$ ,  $OCH_3$ ,  $OC_2H_5$ ,  $SCH_3$ , or  $SC_2H_5$ ;

wherein  $R_{12}$  is H, a  $C_1$  to  $C_4$  alkyl group, or an acyl group; and wherein the chiral center marked \* has the R or the S configuration.

In yet another embodiment the compound has the formula:

$$R_4$$
  $R_5$   $R_8$   $R_9$   $R_9$   $R_2$   $R_8$   $R_8$   $R_9$   $R_9$ 

wherein  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$ ,  $R_5$ ,  $R_6$ ,  $R_7$ ,  $R_8$ , and  $R_9$  are defined as in 25 the preceding formula.

30

In yet another embodiment, the compound has the formula:

$$S_1$$
 $OR_1$ 
 $R_4$ 
 $OMe$ 
 $R_5$ 
 $NMe$ 
 $R_7$ 
 $NMe$ 
 $R_7$ 
 $R_8$ 
 $R_8$ 
 $R_8$ 
 $R_8$ 

20 wherein  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$ ,  $R_5$ ,  $R_6$ , and  $R_7$  are defined as in the formula above.

In a preferred embodiment of the immediately preceding formula,  $R_1$  is H,  $R_2$  is OH,  $R_3$  is H,  $R_4$  is H,  $R_5$  is H,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is 25 H (Compound 113).

In another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula,  $R_1$  is  $CH_3$ ,  $R_2$  is OH,  $R_3$  is H,  $R_4$  is  $CH_3$ ,  $R_5$  is  $OCH_3$ ,  $R_6$  is H and  $R_7$  is H (Compound 107).

In yet another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula,  $R_1$  is H,  $R_2$  is OH,  $R_3$  is H,  $R_4$  is  $CH_3$ ,  $R_5$  is  $OCH_3$ ,  $R_6$  is =0 and  $R_7$  is H (Compound 104).

30

In yet another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula,  $R_1$  is H,  $R_2$  and  $R_6$  are joined as an ester bond,  $R_3$  is H,  $R_4$  is  $CH_3$ ,  $R_5$  is  $OCH_3$ , and  $R_7$  is H (Compound 105).

5 In yet another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula,  $R_1$  is  $CH_3$ ,  $R_2$  and  $R_6$  are joined as an ester bond,  $R_5$  is H,  $R_4$  is  $CH_3$ ,  $R_5$  is  $OCH_3$ , and  $R_7$  is H (Compound 106).

In another embodiment, the compound has the formula:

10

$$R_4$$
0  $R_4$ 0  $R_5$ 0  $R_7$ 0  $R_7$ 0  $R_7$ 0  $R_7$ 0  $R_7$ 0  $R_7$ 0  $R_8$ 1  $R_8$ 2  $R_8$ 2  $R_8$ 2  $R_8$ 3  $R_8$ 4  $R_8$ 5  $R_8$ 6  $R_8$ 6  $R_8$ 6  $R_8$ 7  $R_8$ 9  $R_8$ 9

wherein  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$ ,  $R_5$ ,  $R_6$ , and  $R_7$  are defined as in the preceding formula.

30

In a preferred embodiment of the immediately preceding formula,  $R_1$  is H,  $R_2$  is OH,  $R_3$  is OH,  $R_4$  is  $CH_3$ ,  $R_5$  is OCH<sub>3</sub>,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H (Compound 109).

In another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula,  $R_1$  is H,  $R_2$  is OH,  $R_3$  is H,  $R_4$  is  $CH_3$ ,  $R_5$  is  $OCH_3$ ,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H (Compound 111).

 $5_1$  In yet another preferred embodiment of the preceding formula,  $R_1$  is H,  $R_2$  is OH,  $R_3$  is =0,  $R_4$  is CH<sub>3</sub>,  $R_5$  is OCH<sub>3</sub>,  $R_6$  is =0, and  $R_7$  is H (Compound 108).

The subject invention also provides for a method of producing 10 compound 3, comprising reacting a compound having the formula A with a compound having the formula C.

In an embodiment of the preceding method, the reaction is performed in the presence of N,N-bis(2-oxo-3-15 oxazolidinyl)phosphinic chloride.

In another embodiment of the preceding method, the reaction is performed in the presence of Dess-Martin periodinate.

20 In yet another embodiment of the preceding method, the reaction is further performed in the presence of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.

In yet another embodiment of the preceding method, the reaction is performed with  $H_2$ , 10%Pd/C, Ethanol-ascetic acid in the 25 presence hydrochloric acid.

This invention also provides a method of producing the compound 3 above, which comprises reacting compound 2 above with  $\rm H_2$ , 10%Pd/C, Ethanol-ascetic acid in the presence hydrochloric acid.

30

This invention also provides a method of producing the compound 2 above, which comprises reacting compound 3 above with camphor sulfonic acid (CSA) in the presence of toluene.

This invention also provides a pharmaceutical composition for treating a tumor in a subject, which comprises a pharmaceutically effective amount of compound 1 above or compound 2 above or compound 3 above.

5

This invention also provides a method of inhibiting proliferation of tumor cells which comprises contacting the cells under suitable conditions with an effective amount of compound 1 above or compound 2 above or compound 3 above.

10

This invention also provides a method of treating a patient having a tumor characterized by proliferation of neoplastic cells which comprises administering to the patient an effective amount of compound 1 above or compound 2 above or compound 3 above. In this method the effective amount may be from about 0.5 mg to about 5 mg per day, preferably from about 1 mg to about 3 mg per day, and most preferably about 2 mg per day.

The abbreviation used throughout this disclosure and in the 20 synthesis schemes are abbreviations commonly used in the art of synthetic chemistry and may be readily found in a synthetic chemistry text book.

The abbreviations used in this disclosure are also provided below:

Ac acetyl

5 BOC t-butoxycarbonyl

+DAM di(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl

Dmp dimethylphosphinyl
DMPM 3,4-dimethoxybenzyl

MOM methoxymethyl

10 PMB or MPM p-methoxybenzyl or p-methoxyphenylmethyl

PMBM p-methoxybenzyloxymethyl

Pv or Piv pivaloyl

TBS or TBDMS t-butyldimethylsilyl

THF tetrahydrofuranyl

15 Tos or Ts p-toluenesulfonyl

BOP-C1 N, N-bis (2-oxo-3-oxazolidinyl) phosphinic chloride

CSA camphorsulfonic acid

DDO 2,3-dichloro-5,6-dicyano-1,4-benzoquinone

DIBAL-H diisobutylaluminum hydride

20 DMAP 4-N, N-dimethylaminopyridine

DMF N, N-dimethylformamide

DMPU 1,3-dimethyl-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2(1H)-

pyrimidinone

NBS N-bromosuccinimide

25

TFA trifluoroacetic acid

This invention will be better understood from the Experimental Details which follow. However, one skilled in the art will readily appreciate that the specific methods and results discussed are merely illustrative of the invention as described more fully in the claims which follow thereafter.

## EXPERIMENTAL DETAILS

### Example 1

Synthetic Explorations in the Saframycin-Ecteinascidin Series: Construction of Major Chiral Subunits Through Catalytic 5 Asymmetric Induction

We undertook to test a synthesis directed to systems of the 4-Oxy-saframycin type. From the perspective of its two aromatic sectors, 4-Oxy-saframycin can be viewed as more closely related to compounds of the saframycin series (Saframycin B, A, and S) than to ET.(5) Indeed, the aromatic rings in III can be regarded as modified hydroquinone versions of the quinone moieties of saframycin, with the important proviso that III also contains a 4-oxo group. This function, in the context of appropriate aromatic domains, is potentially valuable for synthesizing ET and a new range of analogs thereof.

Referring to Scheme 1, our approach to III contemplated the 30 merger of two moieties, 1 and 2, wherein each component would bear the absolute configuration appropriate to the goal system in high enantiomeric excess. In this experiment, we describe the pathways, which we followed for reaching the key building blocks. Our inquiry was directed to the applicability of catalytic oxidative asymmetric induction to these targets, and was strongly influenced by precedents from Sharpless.(6 a-c)

Scheme 1. a) 1.1eq. BrCH<sub>2</sub>CH=CHCH<sub>2</sub>OTBS, 1.5eq. K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>3</sub>CN, reflux, 5h, 100%; b) 1.1eq. 30% H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, cat. SeO<sub>2</sub>, t-BuOH, 40°C, 5h, then Et<sub>3</sub>N, MeOH, 85%; c) 1.1eq. MOMCl, 1.5eq. (i-Pr)<sub>2</sub>NEt, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 80°C, 12h, 100%; d) 1.1eq. Me<sub>2</sub>NPh, toluene, 210°C, 12h, 96%; e) MeI(xs), 1.5eq. K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>3</sub>CN, reflux, 12h, 87%; f) 1.5eq. TBAF, THF, 1h; g) 1.1eq. PivCl, pyridine-CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>(1:20), 3h; h) 3N HCl, THF-i-PrOH(2:1), 12h, 99% for 3 steps; i) 3eq. Et<sub>2</sub>AlCl, (CH<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>n</sub>(xs), CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 12h, 96%; j) MeI(xs), 1.5eq. K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, CHCl<sub>3</sub>-MeOH(2:1), reflux, 12 h, 90%; k) 1.2eq. TBSCl, 1.5eq. imidazole, cat. DMAP, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 1h, 99%; l) 2.5eq. DIBAL-H, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -78°C, 30min, 94%; m) 8% (D)-DET, 5.6% Ti(OiPr)<sub>4</sub>, 2eq. t-BuOOH, m.s. 4A, -20°C, 1d, 98% (95% ee); n) 3.5eq. Ti(OiPr)<sub>2</sub>(N<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, PhH, 80°C, 76%(single isomer); o) DMP-acetone(1:2), cat. p-TsOH·H<sub>2</sub>O, 10min, 100%; p) H<sub>2</sub>, Pd/C, EtOAc, 1.2eq. (Boc)<sub>2</sub>O, 5h, 100%; q) 1.5eq. TBAF, THF, 1h; r) 1.2 eq. PMBCl, 2eq. NaH, cat. n-BuN<sup>+</sup>Γ, THF-DMF(5:1), 5h, 96% for 2 steps; s) MeI(xs), 5eq. NaH, THF-DMF(5:1), 12h, reflux, 93%; t) i, 80% AcOH, 12h; ii, 0.2eq. KMnO<sub>4</sub>, 4eq. NaIO<sub>4</sub>, 0.5eq. Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, Dioxane-H<sub>2</sub>O(2.5:1), 10h, 95%

We begin with the route followed to reach 1. The starting 5 material was the readily accessible 4, (7) obtained from the commercially available 2,4-dimethoxy-3-methyl benzaldehyde. Compound 4 was converted by O-alkylation, as shown to ether 5. Dakin-like (8) oxidative cleavage of the aryl aldehyde linkage which was de-acylated formate, generated Protection of the resultant phenol afforded 6. 10 esterification. The allylic ether had served to protect the C2 hydroxyl group while the substituent at C1 was being adjusted in a constructive At this point, p-Claisen rearrangement and sequential protection of the phenol and primary allylic alcohol functions, 15 as indicated, led to 7 and thence 8. Cleavage of the MOM group was now readily accomplished and the resultant phenol function was exploited to bring about O-hydroxymethylation (see compound 9). Selective methylation of the phenolic hydroxyl and silylation of the primary benzylic alcohol led to compound 10.

in place to introduce the L-amino acid setting was 5 functionality. An allylic alcohol (compound 11) was exposed on Sharpless A.E., (6a) cleavage of the pivaloate. under the conditions shown, led to 12 in high e.e. (>95%). Azidolysis of the oxirane linkage under titanium mediated direction (6c) afforded a diol 13. To allow for building the required N-methyl 10 'Boc linkage, the diol was protected as its acetonide (see linkage From that point, the azide structure 14). reductively cleaved in the presence of Boc anhydride to afford Subsequent to cleavage of the TBS group and installation 16 was in hand. of a p-methoxybenzyl function, Following 15 N-methylation, hydrolysis of the acetonide, and oxidative cleavage of the diol, (9) compound 1 was secured.

Scheme 2. a) 1.6eq.  $Ph_3P=CH_2Li$ , THF,  $0^{\circ}C$ , 1h, 96%; b) 1.1eq. AD-mix- $\alpha$ , t-BuOH- $H_2O(1:1)$ ,  $0^{\circ}C$ , 3d, 99%; c) 1.1eq. TsCl, pyridine- $CH_2Cl_2(1:1)$ , 1d, 95%; d) 2eq.  $K_2CO_3$ , MeOH, 4h, 95%; e) 4eq.  $NaN_3$ , 15eq.  $LiClO_4$ ,  $CH_3CN$ ,  $60^{\circ}C$ , 5h,  $(2^{\circ}:1^{\circ}=6.5:1)$ ; f) 1.1eq. BnBr, 5eq. NaH, cat. n-BuN $^{\dagger}T$ , THF, 5h, 90% for 2 steps; g)  $H_2$ , Pd/C, EtOAc, 1.2eq.  $(Boc)_2O$ , 5h, 100%; h)  $TFA-CH_2Cl_2(1:2)$ , then  $NaHCO_3$ ; i) 4eq.  $K_2CO_3$ , 5eq.  $BrCH_2CH(OEt)_2$ ,  $CH_3CN$ , reflux, 3d, 80% for 2 steps; j) 12N HCl-THF(1:1), then NaOH, 88% ( $\beta$ -OH: $\alpha$ -OH=4:1).

20 Referring to scheme 2, the synthesis of 2, with the suitable S configuration at the future C13, commenced with the known and

readily available benzaldehdye 17, (10) which was converted to 18. Asymmetric di-hydroxylation (6b) of the styrene like double bond through the action of AD mix-α gave rise to 19 (> 95% e.e.), from which the epoxide 20 was derived as shown.

5 Azidolysis of the epoxide compound, under the conditions indicated, resulted in a 6.5:1 preference for attack at the benzylic, as opposed to primary carbon. The major product, 21, was converted to its O-benzyl derivative 22.

- 10 The azide linkage was reduced in the presence of Boc anhydride to afford 23. The 'Boc protection maneuver was conducted for convenience in the isolation process. Cleavage of the Boc group of 23 was followed by monoalkylation of the resultant amine function with diethylbromoacetal in high yield (see compound 15 24). Finally, the tetrahydroisoquinole ring was produced by the Pomerantz-Fritsch type cyclization of 24.(11) Product 2 was obtained as a 4:1 mixture of β,α stereoisomers at the future C4. As will be seen, this stereochemical issue is without consequence, since this center is destined to become a ketone 20 in short order.
  - Example 1 shows that a suitably directed p-Claisen rearrangement followed by Sharpless A.E. (6a) can be used to generate a functionalized tyrosine (see compound significantly Furthermore, Sharpless A.D., (6b) followed in due course by a modified Pomerantz-Fritsch cyclization, has been functionalized heavily valuable reach to tetrahydroisoquinoline subtype 2 in high e.e. Thus, the major subunits needed to reach the targets have been assembled by 30 chemistry, which included p-Claisen rearrangement, asymmetric epoxidation and asymmetric dihydroxylation.

### Exampl 2

Construction of Two Additional Chiral Subunits For Use in Preparation of the Saframycin-Ecteinascidin Series

5 The following Schemes 3 and 4 resulted in two additional subunits, 3 and 4, respectively, which were used to prepare analogues within Saframycin-Ecteinascidin Series.

Scheme 3. a) MOMCl, i-Pr<sub>2</sub>NEt, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>; b) Br OTBS, K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>3</sub>CN, reflux; c) PhNMe<sub>2</sub>, Toluene, 210°C, 60% for 3 steps; d) Mel, K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>3</sub>CN; e) TBAF, THF; f) PivCl, Pyridine, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 91% for 3 steps; g) 3N HCl, THF-iPrOH; h) Et<sub>2</sub>AlCl, (CH<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>n</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 84% for 2 steps; i) t-Bu<sub>2</sub>Si(OTf)<sub>2</sub>, 2,6-Lutidine,CHCl<sub>3</sub>; j) DIBAL-H, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -78°C, 89% for 2 steps; k) SAE, 97%, >95% ee; l) Ti(OiPr)<sub>2</sub>(N<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, Benzene, reflux; m) DMP, Acetone, p-TsOH, 88% for 3 steps; n) (Boc)<sub>2</sub>O, H<sub>2</sub>, Pd/C, EtOAc; o) Mel, NaH, THF-DMF, reflux, 95% for 2 steps; p) TBAF, THF; q) BnBr, K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, nBu<sub>4</sub>N<sup>+</sup>T, CHCl<sub>3</sub>, MeOH; r) PMBCl, NaH, nBu<sub>4</sub>N<sup>+</sup>T, THF, DMF, 75% for 3 steps; s) 80% AcOH, then KMnO<sub>4</sub>, NalO<sub>3</sub>, Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, Dioxane-H<sub>2</sub>O, 94% for 3 steps

Scheme 4. a) MeOH, TsOH; b) BuLi, Mel,  $0 > 10 > -40^{\circ}\text{C}$ ; c) DDQ, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O, 60 % 3 steps; d) NBS, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>,  $0 > 10^{\circ}\text{C}$ , e) BBr<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>; f) BrCH<sub>2</sub>Cl, CsF, CsCO<sub>3</sub>, DMF 125°C, 2d; g) i. PhSeSePh, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 2-3d; ii. K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, THF, H<sub>2</sub>O; h) Me<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, NaOH, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O; i) tBuLi, DMF, -78°C; j) Ph<sub>3</sub>P=CH<sub>2</sub>Li, THF, 0°C, 1h; 96%; k) AD-mix- $\alpha$ , t-BuOH-H<sub>2</sub>O(1:1), 0°C, 1d, 98%; l) TsCl, pyridine-CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>(1:1), 1d, 80%; m) K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, MeOH, 7h, 100%; n) NaN<sub>3</sub>, LiClO<sub>4</sub>, CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 60°C, 4h, 87%; o) BnBr, 5eq. NaH, cat. n-BuN<sup>+</sup>T, THF, 5h, 80%; p) H<sub>2</sub>, Pd/C, EtOAc, (Boc)<sub>2</sub>O, 5h, 88%; q) TFA-CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>(1:2), then NaHCO<sub>3</sub>; then K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, BrCH<sub>2</sub>CH(OEt)<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>3</sub>CN, reflux, 3d, >70% for 2 steps; r) 6N Dioxane, H<sub>2</sub>O(1:3), then NaOH, 86% ( $\beta$ -OH: $\alpha$ -OH=2:3).

30

A Novel Face Specific Mannich Closure Providing Access to th Saframycin-Ecteinascidin Series of Piperazine Based Alkaloids

Continuing from Example 1, the following uses the building blocks of Example 1 to reach the saframycin-ecteinascidin series.

10 The anti backbone relationship between C3 and C11 in V , produced from IV, required a sterochemical correction to reach the syn series of quinocarcinol VI. Such a C3 - C11 syn relationship also pertains in I and II. We set as our goal compound III. In doing so, we would be revisiting the question of the reasons for the outcome of the backbone stereochemistry in the Mannich closure sequence.

Referring to Scheme 5 below, coupling of 1 and 2 via amide bond formation was accomplished through the action of BOPC1, (12) as shown, in 60 - 65% yield. Oxidation of the diastereomeric alcohol functions gave rise to 38 (75 - 80%), as a homochiral entity. To set the stage for the envisaged annulation, it was necessary to expose the aryl aldehyde

function from its protected benzyl alcohol precursor.

Following deprotection and oxidation, the homochiral 39,
bearing the strategic aldehyde, was in hand. However,
attempts to reach III by means of a 3-point-attachment of a

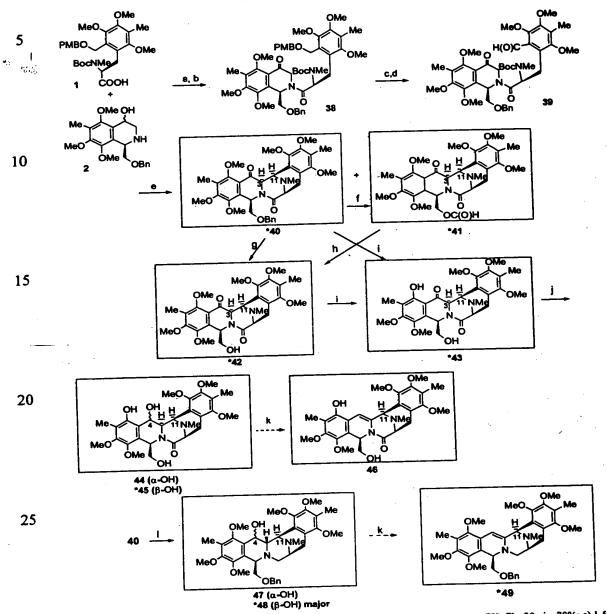
formic acid equivalent were unsuccessful. Only with aromatic
aldehyde in place was the cyclization realized.

In the event, exposure of compound 39 to the action of formic acid accomplished cleavage of the 'Boc group, thereby

10 triggering Mannich-like double closure to produce 40 (which is also III) (75%) and 41 (17%). These products differ only in the "solvolytic" state of the primary center. In a subsequent step, 40 was converted to 41. Characterization of 40 and 41 by extensive NMR measurements (including COSY,

15 ROESY, HMQC and HMBC techniques) established an unexpected and most welcome result. Not only had cyclization occurred, but also the piperazinone ring had been elaborated with the syn C3-C11 backbone stereochemical relationship required for I and II. The stereochemistry assigned to 40 (III) and 41

20 was verified by a crystallographic determination at a later stage of the synthetic sequence.



Scheme 5. a) 1.1eq. BOPCl, 2.5eq. Et<sub>3</sub>N, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 10h, 63%; b) 1.5eq. Dess-Martin periodinate, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 30min, 78%; c) 1.5eq. DDQ, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-buffer7.0-H<sub>2</sub>O(20:1:1), 3h, 84%; d) 2eq. NMO, cat. TPAP, m.s. 4Å, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 30min, 84%; e) formic acid, reflux, 10h, 75% for 40, 17% for 41, f) formic acid, reflux; g) H<sub>2</sub>, Pd/C, EtOAc, 5h, >50%; h) NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, MeOH, >50%; i) BBr<sub>3</sub>, 10h, 75% for 40, 17% for 41, f) formic acid, reflux; g) H<sub>2</sub>, Pd/C, EtOAc, 5h, >50%; h) NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, MeOH, >50%; i) BBr<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 78°C, ~80%; j) NaBH<sub>4</sub>, MeOH, 0°C, ~50%; k) CSA, Toluene, reflux, 62% for 49; l) AlH<sub>3</sub>, THF, 0°C ~ r.t., ~70%.

Synthesis of analogue 55 within the Saframycin-Ecteinascidin Series - Scheme 6

5 10 15 53 (α-OH) \*54 (β-OH) 20 OBn 47 (α-OH) 48 (β-OH) major

Scheme 6. a)  $AcO_2$ , Pyridine,  $CH_2Cl_2$ , ~70% for 50; or TBSCl, Imidazole, DMAP (Cat.), ~70% for 51; b) PivCl Pyridine,  $CH_2Cl_2$ , ~60%; c) NaBH<sub>4</sub>, MeOH, 0°C, ~50%; d) Dess-Martin periodinane  $Ch_2Cl_2$ , ~70%.

25

Synthesis of analogue **63** within the Saframycin-Ecteinascidin Series using subunits **1** and **4** - Scheme 7

Scheme 7. a) 1.1eq. BOPC1, 2.5eq. Et<sub>3</sub>N, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 10h; b) 1.5eq. Dess-Martin periodinane, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 30 min, ~46% for 2 steps; c) 1.5 eq. DDQ, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-buffer7.0-H0(20:1:1), 3h, 80%; d) 2eq. NMO, cat. TPAP, m.s. 4A, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 30 min, 80%; e) formic acid, rflux, lh, 60-70%; f) H<sub>2</sub>, Pd/C, EtOAc, 5h; g) BBr<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -78°C; h) NaBH<sub>4</sub>, MeOH, O°C; i) CSA, Toluene, reflux.

5

Synthesis of analogues within the Saframycin-Ecteinascidin Series using subunits 3 and 4 - Scheme 8

PMBO. BnO OMe O H(O)C **PMBO** 10 15 20 OH 25 70 (α-OH) 72 71 (β-OH)

Scheme 8. a) 1.1eq. BOPC1, 2.5 eq.  $Et_3N$ ,  $CH_2Cl_2$ , 10h; b) 1.5eq. Dess-Martin periodinane,  $Ch_2Cl_2$ , 30min. ~48% for 2 steps; c) 1.5eq. DDQ,  $CH_2Cl_2$ -buffer7.0- $H_2O(20:1:1)$ , 3h, 80%; d) 2 eq. NMO, cat. TPAP, m.s 4A,  $CH_2Cl_2$ , 30min, 80%; e) formic acid, reflux, 1h, 60-70%, eq. NMO, cat. TPAP, m.s 4A,  $CH_2Cl_2$ , 30min, 80%; e) formic acid, reflux, 1h, 60-70%, (66:67=-5:1); f)  $H_2$ , Pd/C, EtOAC, SH, >90%; g)  $BBr_3$ ,  $Ch_2Cl_2$ , -78°C; h)  $NaBH_4$  MeOH, 0°C; i) CSA, Toluene, reflux.

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Synthesis of analogues within the Saframycin-Ecteinascidin Series using subunits 3 and 2 - Scheme 9

Scheme 9. a) 1.1.eq. BOPCl, 2.5eq.  $ET_3N$ ,  $CH_2CL_2$ , 10h; b) 1.5eq. Dess-Martin periodinane,  $CH_2Cl_2$ , 30min, ~50% for 2 steps; c) 1.5eq. DDQ,  $CH_2CL_2$ -buffer 7.0- $H_2O$  (20:1:1), 3h, 70-80%; d) 2eq. NMO, cat. TPAP, m.s. 4A,  $CH_2Cl_2$ , 30min, 70-80%; e) formic acid, reflux, 1h, 60-70% (75:76=5:1); f)  $H_2$ , Pd/C, EtOAc, 5h; g)  $BBr_3$ ,  $CH_2Cl_2$ , -78°C 93-99%; h)  $NaBH_4$ , MeOH, 0°C, 50%; i) CSA, Toluene, reflux, 92%.

Synthesis of analogues within the Saframycin-Ecteinascidin Series - Scheme 10

10 82 15 OBn \*85 20 \*86 25 30

Scheme 10. a) 80% AcOH, 10h, then  $KMnO_4$ ,  $NalO_4$ ,  $Na_2CO_3$ ; Dioxane,  $H_2O$ , >90%; b) i.l.leq. BOPC1, 2.5eq.  $ET_3N$ ,  $CH_2Cl_2$ , 10h; ii. Dess-Martin periodinane,  $CH2Cl_2$ , 60% for 2 steps; c) HF-Py, THF, AcOH (Cat), 93%; d)  $MnO_2$ , acetone, 72%; e) formic acid, reflux, 1h, 60-70%; f)  $Br_2$  or NBS,  $CCl_4$ , ~60%; g)  $Ac_2O$ , Pyridine,  $Ch_2Cl_2$ , ~70%, (87:85=1:1); h)  $H_2$ , Pd/C, Et)Ac.

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Synthesis of analogues within the Saframycin-Ecteinascidin Series - Scheme 11

Scheme 11. a) TBAF, THF,>90%; b) Mel, K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, CHCl<sub>3</sub>,MeOH, reflux, 80%; c) PMBCl, MaH, nBuN<sup>\*</sup>T, THF, DMF, 90%; d) 80%AcOH, 10h, then KMnO<sub>4</sub>, NalO<sub>4</sub>, Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, Dioxane, H<sub>2</sub>O, 90% for steps; e) 1.1eq. BOPCl, 2.5eq. Et<sub>3</sub>N, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 10h; f) Des-Martin periodinane, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, ~50% for 2 steps; g) DDQ, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O, Buffer 7.0, 85%; h) NMO, TPAP, 4A ms, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 70%, i) formic acid, reflux, 1h, 60-70%; j) H<sub>2</sub>, Pd/C, Et)Ac.

The following table provides the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR and MS data for selected compounds which are useful as cytotoxic agents:

 $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) 7.24-7.10 (m, 5H), 6.14 (t, J = 3.4 Hz, 1H), 5.08 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 4.66 (d, J = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 4.52 (d, J = 12.2 Hz, 1H), 4.32 (d, J = 12.2 Hz, 1H), 4.0-3.5 (m, 3H), 3.88 (m, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3,67 (s, 3H), 3.55 (s, 3H), 3.54 (s, 3H), 3.01 (m, 2H), 2.51 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 6H); HRMS (FAB +) m/z calcd for  $C_{36}H_{42}O_{9}N_{2}K$  658.2527, found 658.2557.

MeO Me O H NMe OMe OME OME OME OCO)H

 $^{1}H\ NMR\ (CDCl_{3},\,500\ MHz)\ 7.93\ (s,\,1H),\,6.24\ (dd,\,J=6.2\ Hz,\,3.3\ Hz,\,1H),\,5.02\ (d,\,J=3.6\ Hz,\,1H),\,4.65\ (d,\,J=2.8\ Hz,\,1H),\,4.38\ (dd,\,J=11.5\ Hz,\,6.4\ Hz,\,1H),\,4.29\ (d,\,J=11.6\ Hz,\,2.6\ Hz,\,1H),\,3.79\ (s,\,3H),\,3.78\ (s,\,3H),\,3.76\ (s,\,3H),\,3.72\ (m,\,1H),\,3.66\ (s,\,3H),\,3.62\ (s,\,3H),\,3.02-2.90\ (m,\,2H),\,2.52\ (s,\,3H),\,2.02\ (s,\,3H),\,2.01\ (s,\,3H);\\ HRMS\ (FAB+)\ m/z\ calcd\ for\ C_{30}H_{36}O_{10}N_{2}K\ 623.2007,\ found\ 623.2008.$ 

20 MeO OMe OME OME OME

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) 6.08 (dd, J = 7.7 Hz, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 5.03 (d, J = 3.5 Hz, 1H), 4.69 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.0-3.5 (m, 3H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.56 (m, 1H), 3.54 (s, 3H), 2.95 (m, 2H), 2.56 (s, 3H), 2.07 (s, 6H). MS(ESI+) 577.0.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) 10.99 (s, 1H), 5.94 (t, J = 3.9 Hz, 1H), 5.12 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 4.67 (s, 1H), 3.88 (m, 1H), 3.8-3.5 (m, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 3.55 (s, 3H), 3.45 (s, 3H), 3.00 (m, 2H), 2.58 (s, 3H), 2.02 (s, 3H), 1.98 (s, 3H); MS(ESI +) m/z 543.6.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) 5.88 (dd, J = 7.4 Hz, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 5.19 (d, J = 6.1 Hz, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.63 (dd, J = 5.9 Hz, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 4.52 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 4.05 (m, 1H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 3.83 (m, 1H), 3.744 (s, 6H), 3.737 (s, 3H), 3.71 (m, 1H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 3.48 (m, 2H), 3.13 (dd, J = 18.4 Hz, 8.4Hz, 1H), 2.85 (d, J = 18.4 Hz, 1H), 2.52 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 2.07 (s, 3H); MS(ESI +) m/z 545.6.

5 5 1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) 7.30-7.15 (m, 5H), 5.08 (s, 1H), 4.45 (s, 2H), 4.26 (m, 2H), 3.90-3.70 (m,2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.63 (s, 6H), 3.61 (s, 3H), 3.583 (s, 3H), 3.577 (s, 3H), 3.56 (m, 1H), 3.54 (d, J = 10.2 Hz, 1H), 3.35 (br s, 1H), 3.24 (d, J = 12.4 Hz, 1H), 3.15 (br s, 1H), 3.00 (dd, J = 18.3 Hz, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 2.78 (d, J = 18.4 Hz, 1H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 6H); MS(ESI +) m/z 635.3.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) 7.28-7.16 (m, 5H), 5.09 (dd, J = 8.7 Hz, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 5.45 (s, 2H), 4.28 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, 2H), 4.16 (s, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 3.60 (s, 3H), 3.58 (s, 3H), 3.57 (s, 3H), 3.84-3,38 (m, 5H), 3.24 (m, 1H), 3.06 (m, 2H), 2.66 (d, J = 17.6 Hz, 1H), 2.18 (s, 3H), 2.02 (s, 6H); MS (APCI +) m/z 604.0.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) 6.18 (t, J = 2.9 Hz, 1H), 5.04 (d, J = 3.5 Hz, 1H), 4.63 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 4.38 (dd, J = 11.6 Hz, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 4.2 (dd, J = 11.6 Hz, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.71 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 3.57 (s, 3H), 3.55 (s, 3H), 2.98 (m, 2H), 2.53 (s, 3H), 2.02 (s, 3H), 2.01 (s, 3H), 1.92 (s, 3H); MS(ESI +) m/z 599.5.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 5.92 (s, 1H), 5.10 (s, 1H), 4.63 (s, 1H), 4.08 (m, 1H), 3.89 (m, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.66 (m, 1H), 3.51 (s, 3H), 3.44 (s, 3H), 2.97 (m, 2H), 2.54 (s, 3H), 2.02 (s, 6H); MS(ESI +) m/z 670.8.

 $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 11.01 (s, 1H), 6.09 (s, 1H), 5.07 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 4.68 (s, 1H), 4.30 (m, 1H), 4.15 (m, 1H), 4.0-3.5 (m, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.71 (s, 6H), 3.52 (s, 3H), 3.44 (m, 1H), 3.51 (s, 3H), 3.44 (s, 3H), 2.99 (m, 2H), 2.56 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 6H), 1.07 (s, 9H); MS(ESI +) m/z 628.0.

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<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) 6.08 (dd, J = 7.7 Hz, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 5.77 (s, 1H), 5.17 (s, 1H), 4.52 (m, 1H), 4.37 (m, 1H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 3.77 (s, 6H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 3.12 (m, 1H), 2.89 (d, J = 18.4 Hz, 1H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 2.07 (s, 3H), 1.14 (s, 9H); MS(ESI+) m/z 630.0.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) 7.24-7.12 (m, 5H), 4.66 (s, 1H), 438 (d, J = 12.1 Hz, 1H), 4.28 (d, J = 12.1 Hz, 1H), 4.16 (d, J= 2.7 Hz, 1H), 4.04 (s, 1H), 3.82-3.71 (m, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.75(s, 3H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 3.55 (s, 3H), 3.54 (s, 3H), 3.53 (dd, J= 10.1Hz, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.47 (m, 1H), 2.90 (m, 2H), 2.49 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H); MS (ESI+) m/z 634.4.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) 7.23 (m, 3H), 7.10 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 5.88 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 5.85 (t, J = 3.8 Hz, 1H), 5.06 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 4.63 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 4.48 (d, J = 12.2 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (d, J = 12.2 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (m, 3H), 3.82 (m, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.66 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 3.57 (s, 4H), 3.50 (s, 3H), 2.98 (m, 2H), 2.50 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 3H), 1.99 (s, 3H); MS (APCI) m/z 631.0.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) 7.50 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (m, 3H), 7.10 (m, 3H), 6.79 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 6.64 (s, 1H), 6.06 (m, 1H), 5.94 (s, 2H), 5.17 (s, 1H), 5.12 (d, J = 10.9 Hz, 1H), 5.01 (d, J = 10.8 Hz, 1H), 4.52 (s, 1H), 4.11 (m, 1H), 4.01 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.66 (m, 2H), 3.60 (s, 3H), 3.59 (m, 1H), 3.13 (m, 1H), 2.78 (d, J = 17.3 Hz, 1H), 2.25 (s, 3H), 2.18 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H); MS (FAB +) m/z 667.4.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) 7.16 (m, 3H), 6.82 (m, 2H), 6.45 (s, 1H), 6.10 (dd, J = 6.4 Hz, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 5.97 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 5.67 (s, 1H), 5.24 (s, 1H), 4.56 (s, 1H), 4.10 (m, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.70-3.60 (m, 2H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 3.14 (dd, J = 17.3 Hz, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 2.80 (d, J = 17.3 Hz, 1H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H); MS (ESI +) m/z 587.1.

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 $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) 6.47 (s, 1H), 6.04 (s, 1H), 6.00 (s, 1H), 5.99 (m, 1H), 5.24 (s, 1H), 4.28 (s, 1H), 3.90-3.70 (m, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.65 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 3.13 (dd, J = 16.2 Hz, 9.0 Hz, 1H), 2.78 (d, J = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 2.13 (s, 3H); MS (FAB +) m/z 497.1.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) 7.54 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.35-7.25 (m, 3H), 7.10 (m, 3H), 6.81 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.65 (s, 1H), 6.26 (dd, J = 7.8 Hz, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 5.13 (s, 1H), 5.12 (d, J = 10.8 Hz, 1H), 5.04 (d, J = 10.8 Hz, 1H), 4.46 (s, 1H), 4.14 (d, J = 11.8 Hz, 1H), 3.99 (d, J = 11.8 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.70 (dd, J = 10.9 Hz, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 3.61 (s, 3H), 3.59 (m, 1H), 3.11 (dd, J = 17.3 Hz, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 2.76 (d, J = 17.3 Hz, 1H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 2.172 (s, 3H), 2.169 (s, 3H); HRMS (FAB +) m/z calcd for C<sub>41</sub>H<sub>45</sub>O<sub>8</sub>N<sub>2</sub> 693.3176, found 693.3168.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) 7.16 (m, 3H), 6.84 (m, 2H), 6.45 (s, 1H), 6.30 (dd, J = 7.5 Hz, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 5.72 (s, 1H), 5.21 (s, 1H), 4.48 (s, 1H), 4.18 (d, J = 11.8 Hz, 1H), 4.07 (d, J = 11.8 Hz, 1H), 3.90-3.70 (m, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.70-3,65 (m, 1H), 3.15 (dd, J = 17.3 Hz, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 2.79 (d, J = 17.3 Hz, 1H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.19 (s, 3H), 2.17 (s, 3H); MS (ESI +) m/z 603.3.

 $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) 6.51 (s, 1H), 6.15 (dd, J = 8.5 Hz, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 5.77 (s, 1H), 5.20 (s, 1H), 4.23 (s, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.90-3.70 (m, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.65 (m, 1H), 3.15 (dd, J = 17.3 Hz, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 2.77 (d, J = 17.3 Hz, 1H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.24 (s, 3H), 2.18 (s, 3H); MS (ESI +) m/z 513.5.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) 12.26 (s, 1H), 6.50 (s, 1H), 6.15 (dd, J = 7.2 Hz, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 5.86 (s, 1H), 5.21 (s, 1H), 4.41 (s, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.80 (m, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.67 (m, 2H), 3.15 (dd, J = 17.4 Hz, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 2.78 (d, J = 17.4 Hz, 1H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.24 (s, 3H), 2.11 (s, 3H); MS (ESI +) m/z 500.1.

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 $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) 6.50 (s, 1H), 5.76 (dd, J = 8.2 Hz, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 5.24 (m, 1H), 4.50 (s, 1H), 3.90-3.60 (m, 13H), 3.46 (m, 1H), 3.12 (dd, J = 17.4 Hz, 6.1 Hz, 1H), 2.68 (d, J = 17.4 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.18 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H); MS (ES1 +) m/z 501.4.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) 6.52 (s, 1H), 6.26 (s, 1H), 6.04 (s, 1H), 5.81 (br s, 1H), 4.62 (s, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.82 (m, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 3.55 (m, 2H), 3.29 (m, 2H), 3.15 (br s, 1H), 3.14 (d, J = 17.4 Hz, 1H), 2.54 (s, 3H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 2.02 (s, 3H); MS (ES1 +) m/z 483.5.

 $^{1}$ H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 500 MHz) 6.50 (s, 1H), 6.48 (s, 1H), 5.95 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 4.67 (s, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 3.62 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 3.34 (S, 1H), 3.08 (dd, J = 10.8 Hz, 6.3 Hz, 1H), 2.95 (m, 2H), 2.51 (s, 3H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 2.11 (s, 3H).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) 7.40-7.15 (m, 5H), 6.84 (s, 1H), 6.29 (m, 1H), 5.72 (s, 1H), 5.22 (s, 1H), 4.51 (s, 1H), 4.22 (d, J = 11.5 Hz, 1H). 4.09 (d, J = 11.5 Hz, 1H), 3.90-3.60 (m, 15H), 2.95 (m, 2H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H); MS (ES1 +) m/z 682.9.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) 7.20-6.80 (m, 5H), 6.79 (s, 1H), 6.28 (m, 1H), 5.28 (s, 1H), 4.34 (s, 1H), 4.20 (m, 1H), 4.08 (m, 1H), 4.85-3.60 (m, 15H), 3.47 (m, 1H), 3.15 (m, 1H), 2.84 (d, J = 17.3 Hz, 1H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 3H).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.20-6.80 (m, 5H), 6.63 (s, 1H), 6.28 (t, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 5.17 (s, 1H), 4.46 (s, 1H), 4.20-3.60 (m, 18H), 3.15 (m, 1H), 2.80 (d, J = 17.3 Hz, 1H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 2.18 (s, 3H); MS (ESI +) m/z 616.8.

#### Discussion

Referring to Scheme  $\alpha$ , below, there is a strikingly different outcome in the seemingly similar ring closure steps of IV to V and 39 to 40 (or III). We focus on the hypothetical 5 iminium ions VII and IX which presumably appear in the two progressions. In each case, the system has been programmed such that attack of the nucleophile can only occur from one face of the iminium electrophile ( $\beta$ -as drawn). The interesting issue arises with respect to the stereochemistry of the reaction of the nucleophile. If the enol is attacked from its  $\alpha$ -face, the "anti" backbone will be produced (cf. IV to V). Alternatively, attack from the  $\beta$ -face of the enol would give rise to a syn backbone product (39 to 40).

Aside from issues of steric hindrance, there is a potentially important stereoelectronic consideration. In modeling the closure reaction, it is seen that the coplanarity of the amide substituents can be maintained only if the enol is attacked from its  $\beta$ -face. By contrast, attack at the  $\alpha$ -face of the enol seems to require rotation about the amide in the direction of orthogonalization. From this perspective the syn backbone cyclization product would be expected (see stereostructure IX, 10 which leads to 40 (or III).

Comparable modeling reveals that in the case of hypothetical stereostructure VIII, which could also arise from IV, attack at the  $\beta$ -face of the enol, though favored from the perspective of 15 maximal maintenance of amide coplanarity, would incur a serious steric interaction between ring B and the two carbon bridge. This hindrance would be compounded by a particularly close abutment between the  $\beta$ -disposed vinyl and carbomethoxy groups if cyclization leading to the hypothetical X were to ensue. 20 Hence,  ${f V}$  rather than  ${f X}$  is produced. By contrast, in  ${f IX}$ , where the 6-membered iminium ring contains two additional sp2 centers, the steric problems arising from the emerging syn backbone bridged system are perhaps reduced. In summary, it is proposed that cyclization of 39 (by way of stereostructure IX) is 25 governed by the stereoelectronic factor (maintenance of amide coplanarity), while cyclization of IV (by way of stereostructure VII), is dictated by an overriding steric hindrance effect, leads to V.

30 Subsequent studies revealed that the stereochemical outcome of the Mannich closure step is also a function of the substitution pattern on the aldehyde-containing aromatic ring that enters into the cyclization event.

This shows that the Mannich-like closure of 39 to 40 (III) directly provides the backbone stereochemistry required for the subject alkaloids, in contrast to the stereochemical outcome in a related, earlier case (IV to V).

compounds which contain two - da Based art, prior tetrahydroisoquinoline aromatic carbon nitrogen framework, such as saframycin B, saframycin A (13,14), saframycin S (15), ecteinascidin 729 (Et 729)(16), Et 743 and Phthalascidin (3) consistently exhibited pharmacological, 10 have cytotoxic, antitumor, anti-tumorigenic and cellular antiproliferative activity both in vivo and in vitro. Several publications reveal that compounds which possess tetrahydroisoquinoline aromatic carbon nitrogen framework can 15 function as cytotoxic antitumor agents.(13,14,15, Saframycins are also known for their antibiotic capabilities. These cytotoxic antitumor agents have been shown to core structured similar In interact with DNA. (18, 14)the compounds saframycins and ecteinacidins as interactions occur between DNA and the 20 invention, tetrahydroisoquinoline aromatic carbon nitrogen framework. Compounds disclosed in this invention, based on (2,18,20)pthalicidins, similarities to structural and chemical are therefore capable of ecteinicidins and saframycins, possessing antitumor, well as 25 interacting with DNA as antibiotic, cytotoxic and cellular anti-proliferative activity both in vivo and in vitro.

The pharmacological, antitumor, anti-tumorigenic, cytotoxic and 30 cellular anti-proliferative activity of the compounds disclosed here both in vivo and in vitro can be determined by using published test procedures.

In vivo assays to determine a compound's antitumor capabilities

are typically performed in rodents or other species. Tumor growth is determined by the growth of tumors from transplanted transformed cells or tumor xenographs into or onto the animal. (See, eg., 13, 16, 21) In vitro assays to determine a compound's antitumor capabilities can be performed using a soft agar cloning assay to determine the in vitro effects of the disclosed compounds against primary tumor specimens taken directly from patients. (See, eg., 22) Anti-proliferative efficacy and cytotoxicity typically can be determined by absorbance of viable cells and the use of a reference wavelength to serve as an index for the viable cells. (See, eg., 3)

Alternative construction of chiral subunits 3 and 4 for use in preparation of the Saframycin-Ecteinascidin Series.

5 The following schemes 12 and 13 result in subunits, 3 and 4, which were used to prepare analogues within the Saframycin-Ecteinascidin Series.

Scheme 12. a) TsCl, Et<sub>3</sub>N, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0°C, 2 h, 93%; b) ICl, AcOH, 70°C, 20 h, 92%; c) CH<sub>3</sub>I, K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, acetone, reflux, 12 h, 100%; d) NaOH, EtOH, H<sub>2</sub>O, reflux, 4 h, 94%; e) (CH<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>n</sub>, Me<sub>2</sub>AlCl, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0°C->rt, 12 h, 77%; f) BnBr, K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, acetone, reflux, 12 h, 95%; g) PMBCl, NaH, n-Bu<sub>4</sub>N<sup>+</sup>I, THF-DMF, rt, 12 h, 99%; h) 28, (o-tolyl)<sub>3</sub>P, Et<sub>3</sub>N, Bu<sub>4</sub>N<sup>+</sup>CI, Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub>, DMF, 130°C, 12 h, 78%; i) (S,S)-Et-DuPhos, H<sub>2</sub> (100 psi), MeOH, rt, 2 d, 90%; j) NaH, MeI, THF, 0°C->rt, 12 h,60%.

Scheme 13. (a) m-CPBA, p-TsOH, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>; then Et<sub>3</sub>N, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-MeOH, 100%; (b) Br<sub>2</sub>, K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -78°C, 80%; (c) AlCl<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt, overnight, 99%; (d) BrCH<sub>2</sub>Cl, Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, MeCN, reflux, 82%; (e) Vinyltributyltin, Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, toluene, reflux, 90%; (f) AD-mix- $\alpha$ , t-BuOH-H<sub>2</sub>O(1:1), 0°C, 95%; (g) TsCl, pyridine-CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>; (h) K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, MeOH, 72% for 2 steps; (i) NaN<sub>3</sub>, LiClO<sub>4</sub>, MeCN, 60°C; (j) BnBr,NaH, THF, 70% for 2 steps; (k) H<sub>2</sub>, Pd/C, EtOAc, 90%; (l) K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, BrCH<sub>2</sub>CH(OEt)<sub>2</sub>, MeCN, reflux, 72%; (m) 6N HCl, Dioxane, H<sub>2</sub>O, then NaOH, 86% ( $\beta$ -OH: $\alpha$ -OH=2:3).

Synthesis of analogues within the Saframycin-Ecteinascidin Series using subunits 1 and 2 - Scheme 14.

Scheme 14. a) 1.1eq. BOPCl, 2.5eq. Et<sub>3</sub>N, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 10h, 63%; b) 1.5eq. Dess-Martin periodinane, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 30min, 78%; c) 1.5eq. DDQ, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-buffer 7.0-H<sub>2</sub>O(20:1:1), 3h, 84%; d) 2eq. NMO, cat. TPAP, m.s. 4Å, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 30min, 84%; e) formic acid, reflux, 1h, 70% f) BBr<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 78°C, 85%; g) NaBH<sub>4</sub>, MeOH, 0°C, 70%; h) CSA, Toluene, reflux, 1h, 70%; i) H<sub>2</sub>, 10%Pd/C, EtOH-EtOAc, Conc.HCl, 140psi, 75-85°C, 80%; j) LiAlH<sub>4</sub>, MeOH; k) NaH, MeI, THF-DMF; l) EtOH, NaBH<sub>4</sub>.

Example 12
Synthesis of analogues within the Saframycin-Ecteinascidin
Series using subunits 1 and 4 - Scheme 15

Scheme 15. a) 1.1eq. BOPCl, 2.5eq. Et<sub>3</sub>N, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 10h; b) 1.5eq. Dess-Martin periodinane, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 30min, ~46% for 2 steps; c) 1.5eq. DDQ, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-buffer7.0-H<sub>2</sub>O(20:1:1), 3h, 80%; d) 2eq. NMO, cat. TPAP, m.s. 4Å, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 30min, 80%; e) formic acid, reflux, 1h, 60-70%; f) BBr<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -78°C, 90%; g) NaBH<sub>4</sub>, MeOH, 4h, 0°C, 70%; h) CSA, Toluene, reflux, 1h, 60%; i) H<sub>2</sub>, 10%Pd/C, conc.HCl, EtOH-EtOAc, 14h, 75-85°C, 140psi.

Example 13
Synthesis of analogues within the Saframycin-Ecteinascidin Series using subunits 3 and 4 - Scheme 16.

Scheme 16. a) 1.1eq. BOPCl, 2.5eq. Et<sub>3</sub>N, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 10h; b) 1.5eq. Dess-Martin periodinane, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 30min, 83% for 2 steps; c) 1.5eq. DDQ, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-buffer7.0-H<sub>2</sub>O(20:1:1), 3h, 87%; d) 2eq. NMO, cat. TPAP, m.s. 4Å, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 30min, 94%; e) formic acid, reflux, 1h, 60-70%; f) BBr<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -78°C, 0.5h, 92%; g) NaBH<sub>4</sub>, MeOH, 0°C; h) CSA, Toluene, reflux, 1h, >80% 2 steps; i) H<sub>2</sub>, 10%Pd/C, EtOH-EtOAc, 1000psi, 75-85°C, 15h, 80%.

Example 14
Synthesis of analogues within the Saframycin-Ecteinascidin
Series using subunits 3 and 4 - Scheme 17

· PMBO BnC BocNMg РМВО OMe O H(O)C OMe 3 OMe OH Ö OBn Ö OBn 74 73 ÒМе 2 **\***75 78 113-79 \*80 81

Scheme 17. a) 1.1eq. BOPCl, 2.5eq.  $Et_3N$ ,  $CH_2Cl_2$ , 10h; b) 1.5eq. Dess-Martin periodinane,  $CH_2Cl_2$ , 30min,  $\sim 50\%$  for 2 steps; c) 1.5eq. DDQ,  $CH_2Cl_2$ -buffer 7.0- $H_2O$  (20:1:1), 3h, 70-80%; d) 2eq. NMO, cat. TPAP, m.s. 4Å,  $CH_2Cl_2$ , 30min, 70-80%; e) formic acid, reflux, 1h, 60-70%; f) BBr<sub>3</sub>,  $CH_2Cl_2$ , -78°C 93-99%; g) NaBH<sub>4</sub>, MeOH, 0°C, 50%; h) CSA, Toluene, reflux, 92%, i)  $H_2$ , 10%Pd/C, EtOH-EtOAc, 1000psi, 75-85°C, 15h.

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